

CLAIMS

Sub 1.
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1. A method for operating an electronic purse system that is provided with a system key to protect transactions and to verify that a secure access module (SAM) and a purse card belong to the same system, and in order to provide personal access to access stations in said system, said access stations in said system being arranged for loading and/or debiting said purse card with an amount of money, the method being characterized by the step of maintaining a plurality of user groups that are allowed to use said system by using a float ID that is characteristic for each user group for uniquely associating each money flow effectuated by a person throughout said system with a respective user group.

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2. The method of claim 1 in which for each load or debit process, or for accumulated process data from previous load and debit processes, a data set is generated which comprises said float ID.

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3. The method of claim 1 in which a data set is generated which comprises said float ID and a currency ID.

Sub 4.
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4. The method of claim 1 in which the float ID is used to separately track the money flows associated with said float ID throughout said purse system, from the purse card up to a purse provider's accounting system.

5. An electronic purse system arranged for performing the method of claim 1.

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6. An electronic data carrier for personal use in the system and arranged for performing the steps of the method of claim 1.

Sub 7.
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A computer program comprising code portions adapted for performing the steps of the method of claim 1 when said program is loaded into a secure access module.